

DancingUnlimited Questionnaire

To help us evaluate your child's suitability for the program and to prepare to best serve your child's needs and goals, please answer the following questions

Child's Name: _____

1. Is your child able to separate from you?

2. What do you hope your child will get out of DancingUnlimited?

3. Is there something specific you want us to work on for your child in the classes?

4. What age group is your child most comfortable with? _____

5. Can you describe your child's temperament? Easy going, high energy, self motivated, introverted, etc.

6. Describe recent surgeries:

7. Does your child mind being touched? Is her/his skin sensitive?

8. Please list any allergies we should be aware of:

9. Any other special information of which we should be aware:



DancingUnlimited
dancers performing
with Gem City Ballet
in *Snow White*
April 2018



20 Commercial Way
Springboro, Ohio 45066
937-550-9245
gcb@gemcityballet.org

Barbara Pontecorvo, Director
A Not-For-Profit Organization

DancingUnlimited 2018-19



DancingUnlimited is a dance program designed to introduce dance, music and movement to children with physical disabilities ages 5 - 18. It is exciting, invigorating and encouraging. DancingUnlimited is a wonderful way to introduce a love of exercise to a child.

About DancingUnlimited

As part of its 25th Anniversary Season, Gem City Ballet was excited to revive its popular DancingUnlimited program, first begun in 1998, for children with physical disabilities. The program continues for the 2018-19 season, consisting of two sessions of six or eight weekly dance classes along side GCB company members (participants may attend either or both), and an opportunity to perform on stage with GCB in April 2019.

Gem City Ballet is a pre-professional ballet company comprised of 23 devoted young dancers between the ages of 12 and 18. The DancingUnlimited classes will involve both the dancers and the children with disabilities. A ballet instructor will run each class; Ellen Poti, a former physical therapist at Children's Medical Center will oversee the class. Each class will run for 45 minutes. One sibling of the children is also able to join the class. The class is limited to 20 children with physical disabilities. Children averse to loud noises might want to wear noise canceling headphones as it can get noisy in the studio!

The class will begin with exercises that are fun and inventive. The class will progress to motor skill exercises that are determined by the children's abilities. If the children are in wheelchairs, they are encouraged to dance with their wheelchairs, following specific patterns and incorporating turns and arm movements. If the child is using a walker or crutches, the dancers will work with the child to help them use their appliances in imaginative ways. If the child is ambulatory, marches, skips, gallops and prances are taught. The class progresses to the positions of the arms and feet in ballet, and includes simple ballet movements, such as plies, releves and port de bras. The final portion of the class is creative, with the dancers moving freely around the studio with scarves to different types of music, using different types of movement.

Classes will be video-recorded and parents are encouraged to wait in the waiting room and watch the previous week's class as the current class is running. We ask that one parent stay in the building throughout the class to help with the child using the bathroom if needed. Parents are not allowed to watch, participate or observe class until the final class of each session, October 24 and April 17.

Participants in the second session can also perform on stage with Gem City Ballet in a special production of *The Firebird*, a tale of a

magical bird who helps a prince defeat an evil sorcerer. *The Firebird* will be part of GCB's regular April performance series at the Stuart Sebastian Performance Space at PBS. Rehearsals will immediately follow the DancingUnlimited class on Wednesdays and during the week nights the week before the performances.

Although there are costs associated with this program, the DancingUnlimited children participate for free. The studio rental, the teachers, and performance costs will be paid out of Gem City Ballet funds. If you know of any organization or business that might be interested in sponsoring DancingUnlimited, please let us know about them.

Feel free to call (937-550-9245) or email (gcb@gemcityballet.org) with any questions. Otherwise, please submit the application at right by September 15, 2018.



SCHEDULE

All classes are Wednesdays, 6-6:45pm
Pontecorvo Ballet Studios
20 Commercial Way, Springboro

Session 1:

September 19 - October 24, 2018

Session 2:

February 27-April 17 2019

Performances (optional):

April 26 - 28, 2019

(Performance participants will need to attend rehearsals, including after the Wednesday classes.)

DancingUnlimited Application

Please complete both sides, detach and mail application and other materials listed below to: Gem City Ballet, 20 Commercial Way, Springboro, OH, 45066 **by September 15, 2018**, or register online at gemcityballet.org

Child's Name _____

Birthdate: _____

Nature of disability: _____

Parents' Names: _____ Best Phone: _____

Email _____

Address _____

City, St., Zip _____

Name and age of sibling also participating in class (optional): _____

Primary Physician Name and Phone: _____

Therapist Name and Phone: _____

Session(s) requested: ☐ 9/19-10/24, 2018/ ☐ 2/27-4/17, 2019

☐ Interested in the **performance** also (must attend 2019 session)

☐ A letter from the child's doctor with the recommendation for the child to participate, and including a statement certifying the child is a good match for the program **is attached**.

☐ A letter from the child's therapist with a recommendation for the child to participate and goals for the child to work toward **is attached**.

☐ I understand that the director of Gem City Ballet, Barbara Pontecorvo, and Ellen Poti, former therapist, will make final decisions as to whether my child is a good fit for the program.

☐ **I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT PONTECORVO BALLET STUDIOS, GEM CITY BALLET, AND THEIR EMPLOYEES, STUDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS, WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ILLNESS OR INJURIES.**

Date: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

